Department of Administration

DISC Newsletter

Inside this issue:

Bureau of Department of Administration (BDAS) – STARS and Special Projects Units. By Cathy Jones

The **STARS Unit** provides application program support for the Statewide Accounting and Reporting system, often referred to as STARS. STARS is the financial system of record for the State of Kansas and is used by all state agencies for processing payables and creating state warrants. Over 1,500 users statewide directly access this system and it produces about 1.3 million warrants and electronic deposits each year.

STARS is a mainframe application which was purchased from a vendor and installed in Kansas in April of 1990. The application has been maintained for the Division of Accounts and Reports by DISC staff since installation. The system includes both batch and on-line components. It utilizes VSAM files and is written primarily in COBOL. In addition to providing support for the STARS application, the Programmer/Analysts in the STARS Unit also support a number of smaller Department of Administration systems running on the mainframe OS/390 platform. Among others, these include Fiscal Note Tracking, 1099 Adjustments, W2 reprints, and Regents' Edits.

The STARS Unit is composed of five Applications Programmer/ Analysts.

Jenney Hahn: Jenney came to work for the STARS Unit in May 2000. She supports STARS. She also supports the Regents' Edits software.

Gretchen Hefner: Gretchen became a programmer for DISC in September of 2000. She support STARS and has primary responsibility for the STARS test system.

Clydette Johnson: Clydette came to work for the STARS Unit in April 2000. She serves as the lead programmer supporting STARS. She also provides primary support for the Fiscal Note Tracking system.

Patty Miller: Patty joined DISC in September of 2000. She is a senior programmer, supporting STARS and 1099 Adjustments and providing backup support for Fiscal Note Tracking.

Julie Niehues: Julie has been with DISC since January of 2001. She is also a senior programmer, providing support for STARS and W2 Reprints.

The **Special Projects Unit** in BDAS provides application program support for three systems, SetOffs, STARS Ad Hoc, and Motor Pool. Accounts and Reports' SetOff system is used by approximately 100 users statewide and results in the collection of over $10,000,000 in revenue each year. This system was installed in February of 1996. STARS Ad Hoc was installed in 1990 and serves

EMPLOYEE INFO

Happy July Birthdays to:

Scott Steves	Doug Quinn	Janelle Burgardt
Bill Kelley	John Lowrey	John Jones
Virginia Fuemmeler	Pam Shadduck	Cheryl Price
Julie Niehues	John Harper	Larry Caldwell
Jenny Warner	LaTonya Drakes	Terry Howarter
Janice Yokum	Vickie Rogers	Marsha Herman
Doug Walsh	Andrew Dworak	Rita Jackson

New Employees: NONE: That must mean everyone is happy with their jobs, and we are retaining our wonderful DISC employees!!

Meeting Our Customer's Needs

Trivia Answer:

The DISC employee who played rhythm guitar and sang in a popular local late '60s rock group, is Larry Burton in BOCS. Larry is modest about his involvement, but he has a place in Kansas rock history. The article we read said "Larry was drafted and never heard from again". Well we have heard from Larry and appreciate his membership in our elite group. **DISC ROCKS!!**

We do not have an employee for the trivia question this month, so here is a question about Kansas. Who wrote the music for the State Song? You can find the answer with a little research, on the internet.

BDAS continued

Over 450 direct users around the state. It allows users to build one-time reports from extracted STARS data based on their specific reporting needs. The Motor Pool application was developed by CTG in 1992 and is used by the Division of Facilities Management to track information about state owned vehicles.

The Special Projects Unit is composed of four Applications Programmer/Analysts.

Andy Kuhn: Andy came to work for the Special Projects Unit in September of 1998. Andy serves as the lead programmer supporting the SetOffs system. He also has experience with Oracle development.

Rowena Regier: Rowena has worked for DISC since April 1998. She supports the SetOffs system and also has experience with Oracle reporting.

Alan Sharp: Alan became a programmer for DISC in April of 1998. He provides primary support for the STARS Ad Hoc and Motor Pool systems and backup support for SetOffs.

Linda Smith: Linda came to work for DISC in April 1998. She supports the SetOffs system and also provides backup support for STARS Ad Hoc and the Motor Pool system.

Both the STARS and Special Projects Units are fortunate to have dedicated, hard-working staff. Our customers benefit from the many years of experience and the valuable knowledge these people bring to their work.

Cathy Jones supervises the STARS and Special Projects Units. She assumed responsibility for the STARS Unit in July 1994 and for the Special Projects Unit in March of 1999. Cathy has worked for DISC since 1986.